Shortage of Chief Flying Instructors

1569. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over 35 civil flight training institutes in India do not have any Chief Flying Instructor (CFI) and, therefore, these are not functioning;

(b) whether Chief Flying Instructors in India are paid much less than the pilots and lack of training Air Craft has forced them to opt outside the country, mainly in the United States of America (USA) and South East Asian countries; and

(c) if so, how Government proposes to deal with acute shortage of Chief Flying Instructors so that above mentioned institutes start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) There are 49 Flying Training Institutes in India out of which 18 are not functioning due to non availability of Chief Flying Instructor (CFI).

(b) Government does not maintain records pertaining to pay of CFI as the pay are prerogative of the concerned flying training institute. Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), controls flying clubs from technical angle like maintenance of aircraft and pilot's training standards.

(c) To overcome shortage of CFI, Defence Personnel, on the basis of their flying and instructional experience in Defence, are granted approval by DGCA to act as Chief Flight Instructor or Flight Instructor.

Pre-paid taxi stand at Delhi Airport

1570. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware about the nightmare of air passengers at pre-paid taxi stand at domestic airport, Delhi who face long queue alongwith foreign tourists besides rude drivers and apathetic air staff;

(b) if so, whether Government is taking any step to mitigate the nightmare of passengers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) The domestic arrival terminal at IGI Airport, New Delhi has been recently refurbished and with the opening of the new arrival canopy and further streamlining of the prepaid taxi system, the queues have reduced appreciably. There is a dedicated exit passage for the prepaid taxi passengers. In addition there are traffic marshals deployed to assist the passengers to get taxis.

Reduction in prices of aviation fuel

1571. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state: